

Dave Stark

From: Dave Stark
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REALTOR® Foundation Grants and Habitat for Humanity Make Home Ownership Possible

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Fremont, California (January 12, 2019) – Every day, REALTORS® make the American Dream of home ownership come true and today they made it a reality for some very special families. Eleven first-time home owners are moving into beautiful new homes in Fremont with help from the Bay East Association of REALTORS® Foundation.

On Jan. 12, Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley dedicated the first phase of Central Commons, which is made up of 11 new affordable homes nearing completion in Fremont’s Centerville neighborhood.

The Bay East Association of REALTORS® Foundation played a role by awarding \$2,000 grants to each of the home buyers. The grant funds came from the California Association of REALTORS® Housing Affordability Fund. Bay East set up the grant program in 2018 to help low-income, first-time home buyers defray the costs of home ownership.

The program was the brainchild of 2018 Bay East President Tim Ambrose. “It’s one of those things where you have a vision and to see that vision become a reality is priceless.”

According to Habitat for Humanity, each new home owner also was a home builder. They each completed at least 500 hours of volunteer work and participated in home buyer and home owner education programs. The Bay East Foundation grants honored and built upon each new home buyers commitment to home ownership.

Darwin Ilan’s family of six is a new Central Commons owner and one of the Closing Cost Assistance Grant recipients. He said the grant, “lessened my burden as far as a savings plan and for that I’m so thankful.”

As the ceremonial keys were passed to the new home owners, 2019 Bay East President Nancy Allen said their excitement was palpable and everyone's heart grew "a hundred times more." She said: "As REALTORS®, this is our job, our duty and when you see these families you can't help but feel privileged to be a REALTOR®"

About the Bay East Association of REALTORS®

The Bay East Association of REALTORS® is a professional trade association serving more than 5,800 residential and commercial real estate professionals throughout the San Francisco Bay Area by providing programs and services to enhance their ability to conduct business with integrity and competence. Bay East offers access to the Multiple Listing Service, professional development training, advocacy to protect private property rights and promote home ownership and a variety of networking opportunities and events.

Event photos are available on request.

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